

## **REMARKS**

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and amended as deemed necessary to place the application into condition for allowance.

By this Amendment "F" claim 1 has been cancelled. Claim 1 had previously been withdrawn from consideration. No claims have been amended and no new claims have been added to the application. Thus, claims 2 and 4-14 are presently pending in the application. No new matter has been added to the application.

In the prior Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2 and 4-14 on nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting grounds as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 of U.S. Pat. 7,083,751 in view of Coon et al., U.S. Pat. 7,169,344, and Wycech, U.S. Pat. 6,406,078. To obviate the rejection of claims 2 and 4-14, applicant has filed a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321. Applicant notes that the assignee identified in U.S. Pat. 7,083,751 is "Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha (Tokyo, JP)" whereas the assignee of the present application is identified as "Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (Tokyo, JP)". These names, while different, refer to the same legal entity. "Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha" is a transliteration of the company name as recorded in the Commercial Register (JP) whereas "Honda Motor Co., Ltd." is an English name that "Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha" uses for non-domestic (i.e., non-JP) business purposes. Both names refer to the same legal entity, and U.S. Pat. 7,083,751 and the present application are owned by the same legal entity.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0160, our Order No. SHM-16348.

Respectfully submitted,

RANKIN, HILL, PORTER & CLARK LLP

By: /Randolph E. Digges, III/  
Randolph E. Digges, III, Reg. No. 40590

38210 Glenn Avenue  
Willoughby, Ohio 44094-7808  
(216) 566-9700

December 13, 2007